What is claimed is:

1. 1. A system for secure storage of information and controlled grant of access to said

2. information to clients on a network, said system comprising:

3. A. a server

4. B a client computer coupled to said server via said network;

5. C. a datastore configured to store said information; and

6. D. an access controller coupled between said server and said datastore,

7. wherein said access controller is adapted to function as an application server and

provide a data representation of said information to said client by way of said

server and said network as a function of:

(1) a request from said client sent by way of said network and said server; and

(2) predetermined criteria;

wherein said data representation is transient in said server.

2. A system as in Claim 1, wherein said network includes the Internet and World Wide

2. Web.

1. 3. A system as in Claim 1, wherein said network includes a telephone network and said

2. system includes a telephone coupled to said access controller via said telephone network.

1. 4. A system as in Claim 1, wherein said predetermined criteria define a time window for

2   which said information is available for access.

1   5.   A system as in Claim 1, wherein said criteria includes a start date, wherein said start date

2   defines when said information is made available for access.

1   6.   A system as in Claim 1, wherein said criteria includes a period of duration of access,

2   wherein said period of duration of access commences upon said information being

3   accessed by said client.

1   7.   A system as in Claim 1, wherein said criteria includes an end date, wherein said end date

2   defines when said information ceases to be available for access.

8.   A system as in Claim 1, wherein said criteria includes a start date and a start time,

      wherein said start date and start time define when said information is made available for

      access, and further includes an end date and an end time, wherein said end date and end

      time define when said information ceases to be available for access.

1   9.   A system as in Claim 1, wherein said request from said client includes a client

2   identification and an information identification.

1   10.   A system as in Claim 1, wherein said clients are typed and said data representation is

2   provided to said client as a further function of a client type.

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1   11.   A system as in Claim 10, wherein said predetermined criteria may be different for

2   different client types.

1   12.   A system as in Claim 1, wherein said information includes a plurality of content items

2   and said access controller provides to a graphical user interface of said client computer a

3   client selectable content list, indicating content items for which said data representations

4   can be provided to said client, wherein said client may generate said request by selecting

5   a desired content item from said content list.

1   13.   A system as in Claim 1, wherein a graphical user interface of a client computer includes

               mechanisms to facilitate said client generating said request by entering a URL, entering a

               content item identification, performing a text search, or manipulating a directory tree.

    14.   A system as in Claim 1, wherein said criteria include criteria for verifying that said client

               is entitled to be granted access to said information, said criteria for verifying including an

               identification of said user.

1   15.   A system according to Claim 1, wherein said data representation is provided as a further

2   function of history and profile information associated with said client.

1   16.   A method for the secure storage and controlled grant of access to information in a

2   datastore, wherein an access controller is coupled between said datastore and a server

3   which is accessible by clients over a network, and wherein said access controller is

4   adapted to function as an application server to said server, the method comprising the

5   steps of:

6   A.   requesting said information by said client;

7   B.   verifying that said client is entitled access to the information, as a function of:

8   (1)   said user's request for said desired information; and

9   (2)   predetermined criteria; and

10   C.   providing a data representation of said information to said client,

11   wherein said data representation is transient in said server.

17.   A method as in claim 16 wherein said network includes the Internet and World Wide Web.

18.   A method as in claim 16 wherein said network includes a telephone network and a telephone coupled to said access controller via said telephone network.

19.   A method as in Claim 16, wherein said predetermined criteria define a time window for which said information is available for access.

20.   A method as in Claim 16, wherein said criteria includes a start date, wherein said start date defines when said information is made available for access.

21.   A method as in Claim16, wherein said criteria includes a period of duration of access, wherein said period of duration of access commences upon said information being

3   accessed by said client.

1   22.   A method as in Claim 16, wherein said criteria includes an end date, wherein said end

2   date defines when said information ceases to be available for access.

1   23.   A method as in Claim 16, wherein said criteria includes a start date and a start time,

2   wherein said start date and start time define when said information is made available for

3   access, and further includes an end date and an end time, wherein said end date and end

4   time define when said information ceases to be available for access.

1   24.   A method as in Claim 16, wherein said request for said information includes a client

2   identification and an information identification.

1   25.   A method as in Claim 16, wherein said clients are typed and said data representation is

          provided to said client as a furtherfunction of a client type.

1   26.   A method as in Claim 25, wherein said predetermined criteria may be different for

2   different client types.

1   27.   A method as in Claim 16, wherein said information includes a plurality of content items

2   and the method includes, prior to step A, a step:

3   C.   providing to a graphical user interface of a client computer a client selectable

4   content list, indicating content items for which said data representations can be

5   provided to said client.

1 28. A method as in Claim 16, wherein a graphical user interface of a client computer includes

2   mechanisms to facilitate said client requesting said information, in step A, by entering a

3   URL, entering a content item identification, performing a text search, or manipulating a

4   directory tree.

1 29. A method as in Claim 16, wherein step B includes verifying an identification of said user.

1 30. A method as in Claim 16, wherein step B includes verifying said client is entitled to said

2   data representation as a function of history and profile information associated with said

3   client.